

National Broadcasting  
Company, Inc.

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**DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**

October 31, 1997

William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communication Commission  
Mass Media Services  
P.O. Box 358350  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251-5350

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**OCT 31 1997**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: MM Docket No. 87-268

Dear Mr. Caton:

National Broadcasting Company, Inc. (NBC), on behalf of itself and its wholly-owned licensee subsidiaries, submits the following report, pursuant to the requirements of the Fifth Report and Order in the above-referenced proceeding, regarding the status of its implementation of DTV broadcast facilities in Los Angeles, CA, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, PA, Chicago, IL, and New York, NY.

**KNBC, LOS ANGELES, CA**

The station is awaiting test results of its ongoing tower study to determine if its current transmission tower, located at Mt. Wilson, will be judged sufficient to contain the DTV transmission facilities. NBC has reached agreements with suppliers of DTV transmitters, antennas and transmission facilities. Detailed engineering specifications for these items are being finalized and firm equipment orders will be placed with vendors in time to ensure delivery of these items for installation and testing before the November 1, 1998 deadline. Final analysis and planning is being completed to specify the antenna parameters to meet the service requirements of the DTV facilities set forth by the Commission. KNBC intends to file its application for a construction permit for its DTV facility shortly and is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

**WCAU, PHILADELPHIA, PA**

The station's current transmission tower has been evaluated and has been judged sufficient to contain the DTV transmission facilities after required strengthening elements have been added. The engineering planning for these modifications has been completed. NBC has reached agreements with suppliers of DTV transmitters, antennas and transmission facilities. Detailed engineering specifications for these items are being

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finalized and firm equipment orders will be placed with vendors in time to ensure delivery of these items for installation and testing before the November 1, 1998 deadline. Final analysis and planning is being completed to specify the antenna parameters to meet the service requirements of the DTV facilities set forth by the Commission. WCAU intends to file its application for a construction permit for its DTV facility shortly and is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

#### **WRC-TV, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The station's current transmission tower has been evaluated and has been judged sufficient to contain the DTV transmission facilities. Arrangements are being made to relocate existing FM broadcast facilities to accommodate the DTV antenna installation. The engineering planning for these modifications has been completed. NBC has reached agreements with suppliers of DTV transmitters, antennas and transmission facilities. Detailed engineering specifications for these items are being finalized and firm equipment orders will be placed with vendors in time to ensure delivery of these items for installation and testing before the November 1, 1998 deadline. Final analysis and planning is being completed to specify the antenna parameters to meet the service requirements of the DTV facilities set forth by the Commission. WRC-TV intends to file its application for a construction permit for its DTV facility shortly and is currently on target to begin broadcasting from its DTV facility by November 1, 1998.

#### **WMAQ-TV, CHICAGO, IL**

NBC committed to construct the DTV facilities for WMAQ-TV by November 1, 1998 subject to resolving the complicated tower location issue which had been identified to the Commission. See April 2, 1997 letter to Commissioners from John H. Rohrbeck, President, NBC Television Stations. In that regard, WMAQ-TV, together with other local broadcasters, has been negotiating several possible sites for the location of DTV facilities. At the present time, these negotiations encompass two existing building structures and an investigation of a newly constructed common tower facility. NBC has reached supply agreements for transmitters, antennas and transmission facilities, but detailed engineering specifications for these items are awaiting final resolution of the tower location. NBC's timetable for moving forward in Chicago remains dependent on the marketwide tower negotiations.

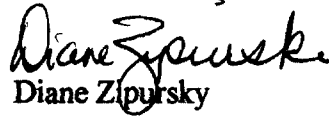
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**WNBC, NEW YORK, NY**

NBC committed to construct the DTV facilities for WNBC by November 1, 1998 subject to resolving the complicated tower location issue which had been identified to the Commission. See April 2, 1997 letter to Commissioners from John H. Rohrbeck, President, NBC Television Stations. In that regard, WNBC, together with other local broadcasters, has been negotiating with the Port Authority of New York regarding use of the World Trade Center Tower for the DTV facilities. In addition, negotiations have been underway for alternative, less desirable locations. NBC has reached supply agreements for transmitters, antennas and transmission facilities, but detailed engineering specifications for these items are awaiting final resolution of the tower location. NBC's timetable for moving forward in New York remains dependent on the marketwide tower negotiations.

Kindly direct questions concerning this progress report to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Diane Zipursky

cc: Roy Stewart  
Keith Larson